

Please note that all claims have been shown for the convenience of the Examiner.

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) A monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem having at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream; and
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, and said processing subsystem including a memory, said processing subsystem adapted to encrypt said at least one data stream to form an encrypted data stream corresponding to said at least one data stream, and being further adapted to write said encrypted data stream to said memory, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to read said encrypted data from said memory, and to decrypt said encrypted data while reading said encrypted data.

Please amend claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) A monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem having at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream; and
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, said processing subsystem including a memory, said processing subsystem adapted to encrypt said at least one data stream to form an encrypted data stream corresponding to said at least one data stream, and being further adapted to write said encrypted data stream to said memory, wherein said at least one sensing device is a probe device adapted for insertion into food.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said sensing subsystem includes a transmitter for transmitting said at least one data stream, and wherein said processing subsystem includes a receiver for receiving said at least one data stream.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device includes a temperature sensor and a battery, and wherein said at least one data stream

includes data pertaining to said temperature sensor and data pertaining to a power level of said battery.

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to at least one of either date stamp or time stamp said data stream.

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

8. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food located at at least one food serving or storage location, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one temperature sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one temperature sensing device adapted to be disposed in food at said at least one food serving or storage location; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, said processing subsystem including a memory, said processing subsystem adapted to encrypt said at least one data stream to form an encrypted data stream corresponding to said at least one data stream, and being further adapted to write said encrypted data stream to said memory.

9. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one data stream is a digital data bitstream.

10. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to read said encrypted data from said memory, and to decrypt said encrypted data while reading said encrypted data.

11. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device is a probe device adapted for partial insertion into food.

Please amend claim 12 as follows:

12. (Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device is a probe device adapted for partial insertion into food, said probe device including:

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a housing;
an elongated pin section extending from said housing; and
a sensing element completely disposed in, and encapsulated by said elongated pin
section.

13. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said sensing subsystem includes a transmitter for transmitting said at least one data stream, and wherein said processing subsystem includes a receiver for receiving said at least one data stream.

14. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one temperature sensing device includes a temperature sensor and a battery, and wherein said at least one data stream encodes a reading from said temperature sensor and a power level of said battery.

15. (Not Amended) The system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device includes a temperature sensor and a battery, wherein said at least one data stream of said device includes data corresponding to said temperature sensor, and data corresponding to power level of said battery, wherein said processing subsystem includes a display, and wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to output on said display graphical indicia indicating both a temperature and a battery level associated with said at least one sensing device.

16. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to at least one of either date stamp or time stamp said data stream.

17. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said processing subsystem includes a memory having an indexed hierarchical data storage structure, and wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to write said encrypted data stream to said indexed hierarchical data storage structure.

18. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said processing

subsystem includes a memory having an indexed hierarchical data storage structure including at least one device index tree indexed by a device identifier and by date stamp data, and wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to write said encrypted data stream to said hierarchical data storage structure indexed by said device identifier and by said date stamp data.

19. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 18, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to analyze each received data stream to determine if said received data stream pertains to a sensing device newly added to said system, and wherein said processing system is further configured to establish a new device index tree in said memory if said processing-subsystem determined based on said analysis that said received data stream does pertain to a device newly added to said system.

Please amend claim 20 as follows:

~~20. (Amended) The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said sensing subsystem includes a sensing apparatus for sensing characteristics of food stored in a plurality of food serving or storage containers, said sensing apparatus comprising:
a central transmitter; and
a plurality of probes, each probe being adapted for partial disposal in one of said containers, said each of said probes being hard-wired to said central transmitter adapted to transmit data from each of said plurality of probes.~~

21. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 20, further comprising:
a member supporting at least one of said plurality of food storage containers; and
at least one conductor forming said hard-wire connection between said at least one of said probes and said transmitter, said conductor being secured to said member so that said conductor is minimally obtrusive to a food service agent serving food.

Please cancel claim 22 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 23 as follows:

~~23. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said at least one sensing device includes a temperature sensor and a battery, and wherein said at least one data stream of said device includes data corresponding to said temperature sensor, and data corresponding to a power level of said battery.~~

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

~~24. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said at least one sensing device includes a temperature sensor and a battery, wherein said at least one data stream of said device includes data corresponding to said temperature sensor, and data corresponding to power level of said battery, wherein said processing subsystem includes a display, and wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to output on said display graphical indicia indicating both a temperature and a battery level associated with said at least one sensing device.~~

Please amend claim 25 as follows:

~~25. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and~~

~~Ap~~ ~~26~~
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said at least one sensing device includes a temperature sensor and a battery,
wherein said at least one data stream of said device includes data corresponding to said
temperature sensor, data corresponding to power level of said battery, and data corresponding
to an identifier of said device.

Please cancel claim 26 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 27 as follows:

~~Ap~~ ~~27~~ (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one
serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one
data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least
one serving or storage container; and
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to at least one of either date stamp or
time stamp said data stream.

Please amend claim 28 as follows:

~~28~~ (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one
serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:
a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one
data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least
one serving or storage container; and
a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said processing subsystem includes a memory having an indexed hierarchical
data storage, and wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to encrypt said data stream
and write said encrypted data stream to said hierarchical data storage structure.

Please amend claim 29 as follows:

~~29~~ (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving

or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, wherein said processing subsystem includes a memory having an indexed hierarchical data storage structure including at least one device index tree indexed by a device identifier and by date stamp data, and wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to encrypt said data stream and write said encrypted data stream to said indexed hierarchical data storage structure indexed by said device identifier and by said date stamp data.

30. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 29, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to analyze each received data stream to determine if said received data stream pertains to a sensing device newly added to said system, and wherein said processing system is further configured to establish a new device index tree in said memory if said processing subsystem determined based on said analysis that said received data stream does pertain to a device newly added to said system.

Please amend claim 31 as follows:

31. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, wherein said processing subsystem includes a memory, said processing subsystem adapted to encrypt said at least one data stream to form an encrypted data stream, and being further adapted to write said encrypted data stream to said memory.

Please amend claim 32 as follows:

32. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one

serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, wherein said processing subsystem includes a receiver, a processor, and a memory, wherein said receiver is configured to encode said at least one data stream to create an encoded data stream, and wherein said processing subsystem is further adapted to decode said encoded data stream.

33. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 31, wherein said processing subsystem includes a receiver, a processor, and a memory, wherein said receiver is configured to encode said at least one data stream to create an encoded data stream, and wherein said processing subsystem is further adapted to decode said encoded data stream.

Please amend claim 34 as follows:

34. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream, wherein said sensing subsystem is adapted so that sensing devices can be added to or deleted from said sensing subsystem, wherein said processing subsystem includes a display and a memory, wherein said processing system is adapted to output on said display graphical indicia indicating each of said sensing devices which has been connected to said system.

Please amend claim 35 as follows:

35. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one

data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said sensing subsystem is adapted so that sensing devices can be added to or deleted from said sensing subsystem,

wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices currently logging data, wherein said processing subsystem includes a display and a memory, and wherein said processing system is adapted to output on said display graphical indicia indicating each of said sensing devices which is currently logging data.

Please amend claim 36 as follows:

36. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said processing subsystem includes a display and a memory, wherein said processing system is adapted to execute a polling routine wherein said processing subsystem analyzes the content of data in said memory to determine the identity of each sensing device included in said system, and to determine which of said sensing devices are currently logging data, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to output on said display graphical indicia responsive to said polling routine indicating each of said sensing devices which has been connected to said system, and to further output on said display a logging icon for each device which is currently logging data.

Please amend claim 37 as follows:

37. (Amended) A monitoring system for monitoring food stored in at least one serving or storage container, said monitoring system comprising:

a sensing subsystem including at least one sensing device for generating at least one data stream, said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food of said at least

one serving or storage container; and

a processing subsystem for receiving and processing said data stream,
wherein said sensing subsystem includes a sensing apparatus for sensing
characteristics of food stored in a plurality of food serving or storage containers, said sensing
apparatus comprising:

a central transmitter; and

a plurality of probes, each probe being adapted for partial disposal in one of said
containers, said each of said probes being hard-wired to a central transmitter adapted to
transmit data from each of said plurality of probes.

38. (Not Amended) The monitoring system of claim 37, further comprising:
a member supporting at least one of said plurality of food storage containers; and
at least one conductor forming said hard-wire connection between said at least one of
said probes and said transmitter, said conductor being secured to said member so that said
conductor is minimally obtrusive to a food service agent serving food.

Please cancel claims 39 and 40 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 41 as follows:

41. (Amended) A sensing apparatus for sensing characteristics of food stored in a
plurality of food stored in a plurality of food services or storage containers, said sensing
apparatus comprising:

a central transmitter;

a plurality of probes, each probe being adapted for partial disposal in one of said
containers, said each of said probes being hard-wired to a central transmitter adapted to
transmit data from each of said plurality of probes,

a member supporting at least one of said plurality of food storage containers; and
at least one conductor forming said hard-wire connection between said at least one of
said probes and said transmitter, said conductor being secured to said member so that said
conductor is minimally obtrusive to a food service agent serving food,

wherein said at least one conductor secured to said member includes a flattened

conductor housing.

Please amend claim 42 as follows:

42. (Amended) A sensing apparatus for sensing characteristics of food stored in a plurality of food serving or storage containers, said sensing apparatus comprising:
a central transmitter; and
a plurality of probes, each probe being adapted for partial disposal in one of said containers, said each of said probes being hard-wired to a central transmitter adapted to transmit data from each of said plurality of probes, further comprising a sensing element, wherein at least one of said probes includes an elongated pin section housing for disposal in a food product, said elongated pin section substantially completely encapsulating said sensing element.

Please add new claims 43-224 as follows:

43. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device is configured for insertion into food.

44. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

45. The monitoring system claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

46. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

47. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device includes a temperature sensor, and further wherein said at least one sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

48. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a seismic sensor.

49. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a pressure sensor.

50. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises an airflow sensor.

51. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a weight sensor.

52. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

53. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

54. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a temperature sensor.

55. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a seismic sensor.

56. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a pressure sensor.

57. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise an airflow sensor.


58. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a weight sensor.

59. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

60. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

61. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

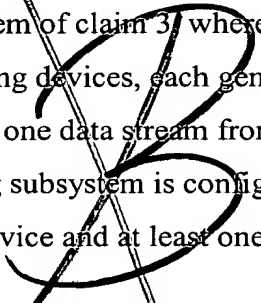
62. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device



comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

63. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

64. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.



65. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

66. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream

from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.

67. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.

68. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said probe device includes an elongated pin section, said elongated pin section incorporating a sensor.

69. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said probe device is adapted for partial insertion into food.


70. The monitoring system claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated pin section, said elongated pin section incorporating a temperature sensor.

71. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

72. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a seismic sensor.

73. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a pressure sensor.

74. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises an airflow sensor.

 75. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a weight sensor.

76. The monitoring system, of claim 4, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

77. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

78. The monitoring system of claim 3, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a temperature sensor.

79. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a seismic sensor.

80. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a pressure sensor.

81. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise an airflow sensor.

82. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a weight sensor.


83. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

84. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

85. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

86. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

87. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device

 comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

88. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

89. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

90. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.

91. The monitoring system of claim 4, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.

92. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

93. The monitoring system claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

94. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.


95. The monitoring system, of claim 8, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

96. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

97. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one temperature sensing device is at least two temperature sensing devices.

98. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

99. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing

 devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

100. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

101. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

102. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

103. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing

device.

~~104. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.~~

~~105. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.~~

~~106. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.~~

~~107. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.~~

~~108. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil.~~

~~109. The monitoring system claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating said temperature sensor.~~

110. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

111. The monitoring system, of claim 23, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.


112. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

113. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises at least two sensing devices, each comprising a temperature sensor and a battery.

114. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

115. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

116. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device

 comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

117. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

118. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

119. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

120. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing

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devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

121. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.

122. The monitoring system of claim 23, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.

123. The monitoring system of claim 24, wherein said at least one sensing device includes at least two sensing devices, each including a battery and a temperature sensor, wherein said processor subsystem is configured to display on said display graphical indicia indicating a battery level and a temperature associated with each of said at least two sensing devices.

124. The monitoring system of claim 24, wherein said at least one sensing device includes at least two sensing devices, each including a battery and a temperature sensor and generating data corresponding to a device identifier, wherein said processor subsystem is configured to display on said display a device identifier associated with each of said sensing devices, each device identifier determined by said processor subsystem from said data corresponding to a device identifier, said processor subsystem further being adapted to display on said display a battery level and a temperature associated with a device identifier.

125. The monitoring system of claim 24, wherein said sensing subsystem is configured to wirelessly transmit said at least one data stream.

126. The monitoring system of claim 24, wherein said sensing subsystem is configured to transmit said at least one data stream via a computer network.

127. The monitoring system of claim 24, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

128. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.


129. The monitoring system claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

130. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

131. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

132. The monitoring system, of claim 25, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

133. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.


 134. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

135. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

136. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

137. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

138. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device

 comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

139. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

140. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

141. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.

142. The monitoring system of claim 25, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.

143. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to time stamp said data stream.

144. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said processing subsystem is adapted to date stamp said data stream.

145. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

146. The monitoring system claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

147. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

148. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

149. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

150. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a seismic sensor.

151. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a pressure sensor.

152. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device

comprises an airflow sensor.

153. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a weight sensor.


154. The monitoring system, of claim 27, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

155. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

156. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

157. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

158. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein

 said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

159. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

160. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

161. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

162. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

163. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.

164. The monitoring system of claim 27, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.

165. The monitoring system of claim 28, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

166. The monitoring system claim 28, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

167. The monitoring system of claim 28, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

168. The monitoring system of claim 28, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

169. The monitoring system of claim 28, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

170. The monitoring system, of claim 28, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

171. The monitoring system of claim 28, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

172. The monitoring system of claim 29, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

173. The monitoring system claim 29, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

174. The monitoring system of claim 29, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

175. The monitoring system of claim 29, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

176. The monitoring system of claim 29, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

177. The monitoring system, of claim 29, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

178. The monitoring system of claim 29, wherein said system is configured so that

said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

179. The monitoring system of claim 31, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

180. The monitoring system claim 31, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

181. The monitoring system of claim 31, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

182. The monitoring system of claim 31, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

183. The monitoring system of claim 31, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

184. The monitoring system, of claim 31, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

185. The monitoring system of claim 31, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

186. The monitoring system of claim 32, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

187. The monitoring system claim 32, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

188. The monitoring system of claim 8, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

189. The monitoring system of claim 32, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

190. The monitoring system of claim 32, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

191. The monitoring system, of claim 32, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

192. The monitoring system of claim 32, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

193. The monitoring system of claim 34, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

194. The monitoring system claim 34, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

195. The monitoring system of claim 34, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

196. The monitoring system of claim 34, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

197. The monitoring system of claim 34, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

198. The monitoring system, of claim 34, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

199. The monitoring system of claim 34, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

200. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device is a cooking utensil incorporating a sensor.

201. The monitoring system claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device is provided by a probe having an elongated hollow pin section, said elongated hollow pin section incorporating a sensor.

202. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device is adapted to be partially disposed in food.

203. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a temperature sensor.

204. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said sensing subsystem comprises first and second sensing devices, wherein said first sensing device is provided by said at least one sensing device adapted to be disposed in food, and wherein said second sensing device is mounted in an interior of a refrigerator.

205. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a seismic sensor.

206. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a pressure sensor.

207. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises an airflow sensor.

208. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a weight sensor.

209. The monitoring system, of claim 35, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem wirelessly transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem.

210. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said system is configured so that said sensing subsystem transmits said at least one data stream to said processing subsystem via a computer network.

211. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a temperature sensor.

212. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing

devices comprise a seismic sensor.

213. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a pressure sensor.


214. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise an airflow sensor.

215. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises a plurality of sensing devices, and wherein at least two of said plurality of sensing devices comprise a weight sensor.

216. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device identifier.

217. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a device type identifier.

218. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each of said first and second sensing devices having a battery, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream

 includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level.

219. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each having a battery and a temperature sensor, and each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said first and second sensing devices are configured so that at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second device include data corresponding to a battery power level and data corresponding to a temperature.

220. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to compress at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

221. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to time stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device.

222. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to date stamp at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing

device.

223. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to encode at least one data stream from said first sensing device and at least one data stream from said second sensing device in accordance with an encoding scheme.

224. The monitoring system of claim 35, wherein said at least one sensing device comprises first and second sensing devices, each generating a data stream so that said at least one data stream includes at least one data stream from each of said first and second sensing devices, wherein said processing subsystem is configured to determine whether a data stream received therein corresponds to a sensing device which is newly added to said system.

REMARKS

Claims 8-11, 13-19, and 21 have been allowed. Claims 3, 4, 12, 20, 23-25, 27-38, and 41-42 describe allowable subject matter. Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,689,442 to Swanson et al. (Swanson). Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by (U.S. Patent 5,044,914 to Schulling). Claims 39 and 40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,028,688 to Goleman et al. (Goleman). Claim 26 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious under Chiu et al. (Chiu). The Examiner will note that applicants have slightly amended allowed claim 8. Specifically, applicants have reworded the preamble of claim 8, and have removed the term "partial" from claim 8. It is believed the amendment to claim 8 has not affected the allowability of claim 8 in that claim 8, as amended remains novel and not obvious over the cited prior art.

The §102 and §103 Rejections

Applicants have cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer each claim rejected either under §102 or §103 (claims 1, 2, 5-7, 22, 26, and 39-40), and thus, no response is believed necessary to the rejection of those cancelled claims. The cancellation of claims 1, 2, 5-7, 22,